

## VICTOR HUGO'S HOUSE

The Old Mansion Has Been Presented to the City of Paris.

It Will Be Maintained as a Memorial to the Great French Author—Filled with Interesting Curios.

Visitors to Paris, especially those of literary proclivities, will hereafter find a new point of special interest in the mansion of Victor Hugo, which through the generosity of the grandchildren and near kin of the great author, has been presented to the city and will be accessible to the public as a museum, to be maintained as a special memorial to the man whose works have been more popular the world over than those of almost any other French writer. Thus with France have a memorial of her gifted son and one who suffered so much in the cause of liberty, similar to England's home of Shakespeare at Stratford-on-Avon, and to Germany's home of Goethe at Weimar, which the poet occupied for 40 years.

The historic Hugo mansion, on the Place des Vosges, is the one in which the poet spent some of the most active years of his long and splendid career in the world of letters. It is nearly 20 years since death's touch stopped the vigorous brain and busy hand of Victor Hugo, yet the condition of the mansion is much the same as when he occupied it. In addition to the furnishings of the house, which are practically those which were in use during the life of the poet, there are many valuable souvenirs of his work, a library of 5,000 volumes, and a collection of the author's drawings and wood carvings, besides gifts and personal souvenirs, portraits in painting, and sculpture, and much else of an artistic and historic value. There are also scattered about the spacious rooms of the mansion many souvenirs of Victor Hugo's friends, including Lamartine, George Sands and the elder Dumas, consisting of inkwells, pens and letters. The room where the author died is exactly as it was at the time of his demise, the furnishing of



THE HUGO HOUSE IN PARIS

the bed, the clock, etc., being identical.

Victor Hugo had the odd habit of standing up to his work, a high desk specially constructed for him making this possible. Hour after hour he would stand on his feet before this desk and busy himself with his literary work. This desk may be seen in the new Hugo museum, which Paris is now able to control and preserve for the coming generations of book lovers and literary lights. Victor Hugo lived to be 82 years of age, and even at that age was vigorous and active. It was a novel sight to see him before his desk much in the attitude of the clerk in the busy office where the breast-high desks are used.

The house where Hugo was born is still standing, and is also a point of interest to the tourist. It is a three-story building and dates from the early years of the eighteenth century. A memorial plate executed by M. Willemot, after designs by M. Berard, the city architect at the time, marks the spot. The poet lived in many different places in Paris between the time of his birth and the return to Paris after his exile and taking up his abode in the mansion which has just been presented to the city. Just before the revolution he lived in the Place Royale, and had gathered gothic stained glass, carved furniture, great drawings by the master himself, Boule clocks, ivories, medals, busts, Venetian mirrors, Holland lusters, Chinese idols, porcelains of Saxony and Japan, a bed with gilded mighty pillars and gilded back, an old movable reading desk with a Bible illumined like the Saint Bartholemey of "Les Miserables," the mariner's compass of Christopher Columbus, "La Pinta, 1489," and other rare articles, but during his exile these were seized and sold. Pity it is that these treasures could not have been preserved and made part of the present collection.

O. A. VOICE.

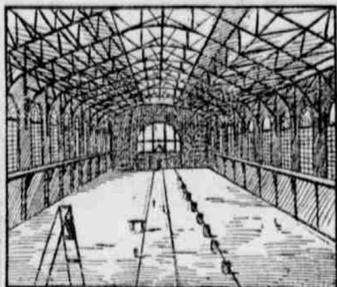
## NEW NAVAL ACADEMY

Imposing Structures Are Replacing Old Buildings at Annapolis.

Eight Millions of Dollars Are Expended to Make This School a Credit to the Nation.

The old naval academy buildings at Annapolis in which many of the great naval heroes of America have received their training, are being torn down to give place to new and more commodious structures that are now being built.

The United States naval academy as we have known it was of slow growth. It was in 1845 that the first start toward a naval school was made by transferring some old buildings on the army reservation at Point Severn from the war department to the navy. In these the first naval school was estab-



WITHIN THE NEW ARMORY.

lished, and to these there has been from time to time added new structures, but there has never been any attempt made at the construction of a group of buildings that would in every way fit the needs of the service.

When, during the civil war, the academy was moved from Point Severn to Newport, R. I., it was thought by friends of the naval service that with the coming of peace it would be possible to secure new academy buildings, but the thought was groundless, and in 1866 the school was moved back to the old buildings again. Time after time has an effort been made to secure an appropriation from congress for an entire new group of buildings for the school, but it was not until 1898 that the appropriation was finally secured, and the work begun.

Eight million dollars will be spent in constructing the new buildings of the academy, many of which are already under way, and some of which are practically completed. The plan of the building as viewed from the sea front shows the cadet quarters extending 729 feet, flanked on one side by the armory and on the other by the boat house. These buildings are at right angles to the direction of the cadet quarters, are 428 feet long and similar in appearance. They are connected by colonnades with the quarters. This gives from the sea a harmonious group of buildings extending in a northeasterly and southwesterly direction for 1,278 feet, with the high roof of the main building of the cadet quarters as a center. Thirteen hundred feet in a northwesterly direction, with the main line of buildings parallel to and facing the first group, is the academic building, with the chemistry and marine engineering buildings on either flank and with the high roof of the academic building in the center and balancing the group to the southeastward. Between these two groups, facing the Severn river and



A VIEW IN THE GROUNDS.

forming the westerly side of the rectangle is the auditorium and chapel, with the superintendent's house and the administration building on either side. The fourth side of the rectangle is formed by the basin. From the steps of this basin and facing the auditorium is the best view. On either hand is a handsome group of buildings with the dome of the auditorium as the center.

It does not seem possible that after having progressed this far any change can be made in the plans, and if there are none, and those designed by Mr. Flagg and approved by the navy department are carried out, the country will receive in return for its \$18,000,000 not only commodious buildings well suited to the needs of the academy, but also a splendid architectural masterpiece well worthy of the country and so far unique that the entire group of buildings are the design of one master hand.

## THE ROAD TO SUCCESS.

The Farmer Who is in Love with His Work Rarely Fails in Anything He Undertakes.

A man passed through my stable the other day, and looking at the cattle feeding there, he said, "I like to see a row of nice cattle. They look good to me."

That is the true farmer spirit. You may put in your whole life farming and in the end have lost all, or nearly all, the happiness simply because you do not love your calling. To succeed one must have more than a pecuniary motive in view. He should be able to enter into sympathy with his cows, sheep and horses. He must see in them something more than dumb beasts, to be treated as shabbily as possible and finally turned away for a song.

The man who can go through a series of years on a farm and not be a better man, kinder of heart and more sympathetic to all the helpless creatures about him is a hard-hearted man. The sicknesses of his cows and sheep, the ailments of his horses and other farm animals, are all well calculated to awaken in him a kindly feeling which will lead him to do all in his power to alleviate their sufferings. Some men are so brutal with their stock that they fail to derive the profit they should from them. They are themselves made harsh and cruel by their treatment of their cattle.

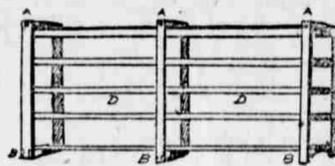
It is the same way with other farm-work. To get the most out of it, one ought to love the every-day things which come in the line of his duty. I know men who do not even cut down a tree, especially a live one, without a sense of personal loss. These are the true farmers. Farming is more than plowing, sowing and gathering into barns. It is living. The more we realize this, the better work we will do and the more successful we will be.—E. L. Vincent, in Farm and Fireside.

## VERY EASY TO HANDLE.

When a Single Hog, Sheep or Calf Has to Be Hauled, This Crate Is Very Useful.

It is often convenient to have a crate in which to haul a single hog, sheep or calf. It is not necessary to have it so large or so heavy but that it can be easily lifted into the wagon, or even taken in the light wagon where the animal to be hauled is not too large and heavy. The frame should be made of two by four, strengthened with rods and bolts. Four-inch slats are nailed horizontally on the inside of the sides and perpendicular on the end. Three slats dropped from above and retained in position by the mortised end will retain the animal when inside.

The crate is about three feet wide.



LIGHT STOCK CRATE.

four and one-half feet high, and five feet long. The three frames are mortised at top and bottom and have a rod (A) at top, and at the bottom two by four are bolted at B. The floor is spiked down to these. The slats are nailed on from the inside to prevent crowding off. To give strength substitute a two by four in place of slat (D), which should be bolted to the frames. The slats for retaining the animal are made of two by four. They are made to slip down between the rod and outside two by four brace across the top of the rear frame, the bottom of the slat (C) mortised to fit a square hole cut in the floor and the top held in position by a pin fitting into holes bored through the top of slat and braces of frame. The figure shows the crate complete.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

## Position of Poultry House.

It is usually preferred to have the front of the poultry house face the south, yet the sun does not send the heat into such houses in winter until quite late in the morning. A poultry house should face the southeast, and then the heat and light will enter as soon as the sun rises, warming the interior at a time when the fowls desire warmth the most, which is when they first come off the roost in the morning, says a writer in an exchange. In the winter the sun is in the south the greater portion of the day, and hence, if the house faces the southeast, it not only receives warmth early, but the sun will send rays of heat into the house until about 3 o'clock in the afternoon.—Prairie Farmer.

## When Grass Grows Seed.

When the grass is allowed to produce seed it exhausts the crop more than when a crop of hay is cut before the seeds are permitted to appear. When seed heads form then the plant has fulfilled its mission, and has stored in the seeds a larger proportion of the mineral elements than remains in the stalks of the plants, in many cases, as the green plants, when cut down early consist largely of water. A grain crop and a crop of seed from grass deprive the soil of a proportion of all the fertilizing substances existing therein.

Be interested in your work, and half the labor is accomplished.

## HOW TO SEE MEXICO

It Cannot Be Done from the Window of a Pullman Car.

The Picturesque Places Worth Seeing Are Away from the Railroads—Some Ways in Which the Mexicans Lead.

You may travel through Mexico in a private car with a smelling salts to your aristocratic nose and a dainty table spread to tempt your languid appetite, but you will never see the country nor learn the people.

If you want the comforts of home then stay at home, but if you travel for pleasure, experience and pastime use the train only as a means of conveyance and live with the people at the hotels, shop in the markets, listen to the chatter in the



A MEXICAN STREET SCENE.

plaza, and being in Mexico do as the Mexicans do.

Go some day to the public baths. Few of our proud cities can boast of such conveniences. A broad marble pool with steps leading to all the dressing rooms. Those on the first floor are 30 cents, as they are first class; those below only 15 cents, the same in every appointment, but second class.

Overhead is a stained glass roof and on the bottom of the pool the green moss is ever moving as the clear water flows gently in and out.

In "Agua Calientes," as the name signifies, you will find "hot waters." These have been the healing waters of Mexico since Montezuma's time. At the end of a beautiful drive you will find a low, rambling building crouched at the foot of a hill. Here are the hot springs. Every room has an individual pool sunk in the floor—the bottom is smooth pebbles and the water of varying degrees of heat in the different rooms. Over the door to each bath is the Fahrenheit temperature of the water, and as a patron, the name of some beneficent saint.

Saint John the Baptist is quite popular, being of a most mild temperature; but Saint Peter is a few degrees higher, perhaps more fitting to his somewhat fiery nature.

If you should see on a morning's stroll a large, paved enclosure with several horses entering or leaving with their attendant grooms, step in for a moment, it is the public bath for horses. Here is a long, rather deep tank sloping at either end to admit of entrance and egress. The horses seem to recognize a privilege and prance and whinny as a rope bridle is passed over their heads and they are led to the plunge by the bath attendant. Then such swimming



THE PUBLIC HORSE BATH.

and plunging and playing in the water like a truant boy—and after a few moments, out at the other end, a brisk rub-down and off to make room for the next comer.

Some day, when you are taking a stroll in the sun, you may grow thirsty. On every hand you will find a pulque shop—and here you should try the national beverage. Don't be afraid; as long as it is pulque it is a harmless, pleasant drink, but when it is tequila, touch it not.

Pulque is the sap drawn from the heart of the magney plant. During the first 24 hours it is a milky-looking liquor, tasting like fresh sweet cider. When it begins to ferment, however, this is the most vile, nauseating swill. But as it settles it is reduced to almost clear alcohol, forming a most fiercely intoxicating liquor called tequila.

ANNA H. CLARK.

## SPORTS AND ATHLETICS

The diamond sculls, the prize to which all oarsmen of England and other countries aspire, and which are annually competed for at the Henley (England) regatta, were again captured this year by the present holder, F. S. Kelly, of Leander. There was only one American candidate for the trophy this year, J. B. Juvenal, of Philadelphia, and followers of the sport on this side of the water were generally interested in his outcome. He was beaten in his heat by an Englishman, A. J. Beresford, the American hardly proving a match for the foreigner. Later Beresford found his superior at the oars in the present holder of the trophy.

At another contest held in England recently America was more fortunate. Her team captured the Palma trophy at the international rifle match at Bisley, competing against the picked men of Great Britain, Canada, Natal, Norway, France and Australia. The Americans' aggregate score out of a possible 1,800 over the 800, 900 and 1,000-yard ranges was 1,570. That of the British team, which finished second, was 1,555.

The Palma trophy is emblematic of the long range rifle shooting championship of the world. It was first offered in this country in 1875, when an American team won it in competition against teams from Ireland, Scotland, Canada and Australia. The trophy remained in America till 1901, when the Canadian team won it, scoring 1,522 points, against 1,491 scored by the American defenders. Last year a selected team of Americans contested for the trophy on the Rockcliffe rifle range, Ottawa, Canada. The contest resulted as follows: British team, 1,459; American team, 1,447; Canadian team, 1,373.

The team which represented the United States in the competition consisted of Lieuts. A. E. Wells, K. K. V. Casey and Sergt. George Doyle, Seventy-first regiment, N. Y. N. G.; Corporal W. E. Short, Seventh regiment, N. Y. N. G.; Sergt. J. H. Keough, Sixth regiment, N. G., Mass.; Corporal C. E. Winder, Sixth regiment, N. G., Ohio; Private George Cook, First regiment, N. G., D. C.; Thomas Holcombe, Jr., U. S. marine corps.

A play which does not happen very often on the ball field was made the other day by George Pennington, who covers the position of shortstop for the Fort Scott team in the Missouri Valley league. He made a triple play unassisted. As a matter of fact the conditions for making a play of this kind must be just right, but it nevertheless requires quick thinking to complete the work. The play was made while Pennington's team were playing the Iowa team at Fort Scott, Kan. The teams were tied for third place and had just broken even after playing four games. At the beginning of the fourth inning Fort Scott had one run, while Iowa had still her first to get, but after Fort Scott had made nothing in its half Iowa started off with three hits in succession, filling the bases. There were no outs and when the next man came up to bat Pennington was playing in for a sacrifice. The batter sent a hot line drive to Pennington, who staggered, but held it; recovering himself, he immediately turned round, touching the man on second who had started for third. Pennington then ran to third base and retired the man there who had started for home plate before he had time to return. A round of cheers greeted the young player as soon as it was realized what he had done. The play won the game for the Fort Scott team as the final score was 3 to 2 in their favor. Only twice before in the history of the game has the play been made.

The baseball world has recently lost two players of more than average prominence. One is Robert Lowe, former captain of the Chicago National league, and the other is the famous Delehanty whose body was recently found below the falls in the Niagara river. Lowe's best days are evidently over as a ball-player as he is thought to have a permanent injury to his knee. He is one of the old stock of "heavy" players and we will no doubt soon see him connected with the game again in the role of manager, imparting his knowledge to the younger ones. Delehanty was famous as a batsman and during all the years of his baseball career his name was always to be found among the first in batting averages.

Albert Champion lowered his own world's record for a mile on a circular bicycle track at Boston, when, on a motor cycle, he did a mile in :58 4-5. His former mark was 1:03.

George Pennington.

Albert Champion.